

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 00712 081357 Z

46

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 INT-08 L-03

COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 RSR-01 /114 W  
----- 004475

R 081208 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8657

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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NOFORN

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS : EMIN GV

SUBJECT : IRON ORE EXPLOITATION - MIFERGUI DEVELOPMENTS

1. EMBOFF HAS BEEN SHOWN TELEGRAM IN STRICTIST CONFIDENCE  
GIVING INTERESTING BACKGROUND ON NEGOTIATIONS FOR EXPLOITA-  
TION OF GUINEA' S IRON ORE DEPOSITS. TELEGRAM DATED MARCH 22  
IS FROM LAMCO PRESIDENT DETWILLER IN NEW YORK TO MINISTER OF  
THE ECONOMY AND FINANCE ISMAEL TOURE.

2. DETWILLER BEGINS MESSAGE BY RECALLING HE HAD DISCUSSED  
DEVELOPING SIMANDOU IRON ORE PROJECT WITH ISMAEL, PRIME  
MINISTER BEAVOGUI, AND PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE A NUMBER OF TIMES  
IN PAST. U. S. STEEL CORP. AND JAPANESE COMPANIES, HE SAID,  
WERE ASSOCIATED WITH HIM AT THAT TIME. HAD THE GUINEAN GOVERN-  
MENT GRANTED THEM A CONCESSION IN 1970, THE VAST AUSTRALIAN  
IRON ORE MINING DEVELOPMENT WOULD NEVER HAVE OCCURRED, ACCORDING  
TO DETWILLER. AT THE SAME TIME GUINEA WOULD NOW HAVE BEEN  
PRODUCING OVER 40 MILLION TONS OF IRON ORE PER YEAR AND THE  
GUINEA GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE RECEIVED OVER 200 MILLION  
DOLLARS PLUS ANNUAL NET INCOME OF 60 MILLION DOLLARS  
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PER YEAR. DETWILLER THEN SAYS HE HAS SUBMITTED ANOTHER PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP SIMANDOU IN COOPERATION WITH U. S. STEEL CORP. AND FIVE JAPANESE COMPANIES NOW INVOLVED IN LIBERIA IRON AND STEEL CORP. PROJECT. THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT, LAMCO AND THEIR ASSOCIATES WANT TO COOPERATE WITH GUINEA IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SIMANDOU AND HOPED THIS TIME ISMAEL WOULD QUICKLY

AGREE TO THEIR PROPOSALS AND CABLE A FAVORABLE REPLY.

3. LOCAL NICHIMEN REP SAYS HIS COMPANY IS VERY CONCERNED OVER POSSIBILITY U. S. STEEL AND FIVE JAPANESE ASSOCIATES SIGNING MIFERGUI ACCORDS BEFORE NICHIMEN SIGNS. THIS WOULD, NICHIMEN FEARS, ELIMINATE NICHIMEN MIDDLEMAN ROLE.

4. EMBOFF MET GUINEAN DIRECTOR KEITA OF MIFERGUI ON MAY 8 AS DIRECTOR WAS GETTING READY TO LEAVE FOR " TECHNICAL "

MEETING WITH LAMCO AND OTHERS AT MONROVIA. KEITA SAID MIFERGUI CONSORTIUM WITH FINISIDER AS SPOKESMAN HAD DECIDED LET MEMBERS GO THEIR OWN WAY. FOR THIS REASON HE HOPED U. S. STEEL REP WOULD BE AT MONROVIA MEETING.

TODMAN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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30 JUN 2005

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**TAGS:** EMIN, GV  
**To:** EB  
MONROVIA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
TOKYO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005